



# MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 17, 2021 ✠ 10:30 AM

† *For those who are able, please stand.*

*As we move from a time of fellowship in Connection to the time of worship in Church,  
let us enter the Sanctuary in a prayerful manner,  
and may we open our hearts and minds to worship God.*

## ✠ GATHERING ✠

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### RINGING OF THE BELLS

#### PRELUDE

“Aria”

Dr. Kenneth Sass

Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

#### WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

#### † CALL TO WORSHIP

Shari Freeman

(INSPIRED BY THE THEOLOGICAL DECLARATION OF BARMEN)

ONE: Each year we pray, discern, nominate, and elect people to serve the church.

ALL: We do this in the same manner Titus served the people of Crete, to bring order.

ONE: Does this mean they “Lord” over the people of the church?

ALL: No, we the people choose them so they may lead us in being faithful to the Word of God.

ONE: Who then is head of the church?

ALL: Jesus Christ. We are called to co-labor with Christ in the nurturing of faith and life.

Let us work and worship together!

#### † MORNING SONG #477

“Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim”

HANOVER

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim, And publish abroad His wonderful name;  
The name all victorious of Jesus extol, His kingdom is glorious and rules over all.

God ruleth on high, almighty to save; And still He is nigh—His presence we have;  
The great congregation His triumph shall sing, Ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.

“Salvation to God, who sits on the throne,” Let all cry aloud, and honor the Son;  
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim, Fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.

Then let us adore, and give Him His right, All glory and power, all wisdom and might,  
All honor and blessing, with angels above, And thanks never ceasing, and infinite love.

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

Servant God, you lead by example. You engage the least, the lost, and the afflicted.

We, in turn, look for accumulation, abundance, and influence. Help us to see your wisdom and inspire those we elect to positions of leadership to exude such qualities. For our service should never be a mark of pride, it should be a mission of humility. Today, we are invited to teach what is sound in doctrine. That can have many meanings, but at it's core, it means we called to serve you and serve others. Help us to lead by this example, your example. We are flawed and broken, but we welcome those who, too, are flawed and broken, to discern with and alongside us, so we may not become a wayward island, but a bulwark where the least find assurance, the lost find stability, and the afflicted find healing.

In your gracious name, we pray. Amen.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ONE: ...In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

† RESPONSE

“Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us”

*Kyrie*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

*(All children 5th grade and younger are invited to come forward for storytelling and prayer.)*

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

*(Please greet each other with the peace of Christ, in a manner comfortable for one another.)*

✠ THE WORD ✠

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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Abernethy

SCRIPTURE

Titus 1:5-2:1

HOMILY

*Faithful Character: Titus*

✠ RESPONSE ✠

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† SONG IN RESPONSE #434

“Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples”

KINGSFOLD

Today we all are called to be Disciples of the Lord,

To help to set the captive free, Make plow-share out of sword,

To feed the hungry, quench their thirst, Make love and peace our fast,

To serve the poor and homeless first, Our ease and comfort last.

God made the world and at its birth Ordained our human race  
To live as stewards of the earth, Responding to God's grace.  
But we are vain and sadly proud, We sow not peace but strife,  
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud That threatens all of life.

Pray justice may come rolling down As in a mighty stream,  
With righteousness in field and town To cleanse us and redeem.  
For God is longing to restore An earth where conflicts cease,  
A world that was created for A harmony of peace.

May we in service to our God Act out the living Word,  
And walk the road the saints have trod Till all have seen and heard.  
As stewards of the earth may we Give thanks in one accord  
To God who calls us all to be Disciples of the Lord.

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*The Apostles' Creed*)

Shari Freeman

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;  
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Toney-Schmitt

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

"Benedictus vir"

Matthias Young

† DOXOLOGY

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

† PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Wendy Hagenau

## ✠ SENDING ✠

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### † SONG FOR DISMISSAL

“Here I Am, Lord”

HERE I AM, LORD

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in deepest sin My hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

*Refrain*

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of wind and flame I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them, My hand will save  
Finest bread I will provide 'Til their hearts be satisfied  
I will give my life to them Whom shall I send? (*to refrain*)

### † BENEDICTION

Rev. Abernethy

### † CHORAL RESPONSE

“A Lydian Amen”

Matthias Young

### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

### POSTLUDE

“Sonata on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tone”

José Lidon (1752-1827)

Dr. Sass



*We thank you for worshipping with us today. If you are so moved and would like to give a tithe or offering,  
there are collection plates as you exit.*

*If you are interested in joining MVP Church, go to the Visitor's Table to pick up a visitor bag with a little gift  
and someone will be there to greet you.*

### Leading Today's Worship Service

Rev. Barrett Abernethy, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, Associate Pastor  
Matthias Young, Director of Music  
Dr. Kenneth Sass, Principal Organist  
Shari Freeman, Seminary Intern

We are located at  
471 Mount Vernon Hwy, NE  
Sandy Springs, GA 30328  
mvpchurch.org



Our mailing address is  
P.O. Box 76051  
Sandy Springs, GA 30358

# MVPC Announcements....



**Welcome!** Updated Covid Protocols – In light of new CDC recommendations, we are strongly encouraging all people, whether vaccinated or not, wear a mask if they worship or if they engage in any indoor ministry gathering.

**Visitors & Membership:** Please go to our website: [mvpchurch.org](http://mvpchurch.org), contact our church office at **404.255.2211**, or speak with one of our pastors after the service. If you are interested in joining MVP Church, please stop at the **Welcome Table in the Narthex** and pick up a visitor bag where someone will be there to greet you.



**Next Outdoor Worship Service:** November 14

## Upcoming Services:



October 24 1 Kings 8:54-61, "Faithful Character: Solomon", Rev. Barrett Abernethy  
October 31 "Faithful Character: Jesus Christ", Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

**Congregational Meeting:** Please stay after the service **TODAY** to elect our new & returning Elders: Pat Bartee, Dee Bradford-Smith, Kyle Cumming, Gloria Gillespie, Malinda Holmes, Beppie Lever, & Mary McClurg



**Youth:** We are leaving at today at 4:30pm to serve a meal at Clifton Ministries.



**Pumpkin Palooza:** Sunday, **October 24**, 4-7:00pm. Free event for all ages including balloon animals, face painting, tattoos, cake walk, bring your own pumpkin to decorate and enter in the pumpkin decorating contest. Chili dinner at 5:30pm & pumpkin decorating contest winners announcement at 6:00pm.

**Drivers Needed:** We are in need of drivers to pick up residents from the MV Towers and bring them to church on Sunday mornings. Sedans are preferable to SUVs for mobility issues. Please contact the church if you would like to help in this ministry.



October 17, 2021



Make sure to follow us on social media to stay updated!

**Conversation (Adult Sunday School):** At 9:30am the **Crossroads** class meets in the Session Room; and the **Discovery** class meets in the Chapel.

**Children's Christian Education** will be in the Chapel during the second half of worship.

**Ways to Connect:** Are you on our mailing list for the weekly *Happenings* email? How about the monthly newsletter *The Good News*? If not and you would like to receive them, send an email to [debbie@mvpchurch.org](mailto:debbie@mvpchurch.org)

**The MVPC Members' Gift of Wisdom** Fall issue is now available in the Narthex. Be sure to pick one up.



**The October Communion Offering** is candy for the Halloween Trunk or Treat event at Lake Forest Elementary School. This annual event gives students and their parents a safe environment to enjoy Halloween festivities. Bags of individually wrapped pieces of candy as well as other snacks such as granola bars are needed. Please leave all donations in the Outreach Bin near the church office at any time until **October 24**. Thank you for your generosity.

**Prayer Concerns:** Carol Beckman, Inez Cole, Iva Corbin, Bruce Hagenau, Catie O'Hare, Kirk Pumphrey, Dave Whitacre.

**Prayers** for the family of Mary Earle Pelfrey. Her memorial service will be Saturday, November 13 at 11:00am (*Corrected date*). Reception to follow in the Narthex.

**Attendance:** 10/10 84(Sanctuary), 22(online)

We raised \$805 for the Peace & Global Witness special offering! Thank you!

*Giving*



## Financial Update

October 7-14	Actual	Actual YTD	2021 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$10,130	\$398,585	\$438,290
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 1,805	\$ 35,171	\$ 70,000
Non Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 532	\$ 8,107	\$ 6,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,467</b>	<b>\$441,863</b>	<b>\$ 514,290</b>

If you have any announcements that you would like to appear in the *Happenings* or *Good News*, please email them to [debbie@mvpchurch.org](mailto:debbie@mvpchurch.org)